



**Regular Meeting, Fire District #1, June 30, 1999**

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Thomas G. Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Aye

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Thank you. Next item."

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**A. PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION REGARDING ALTERATION AND MODIFICATION OF BOUNDARIES OF SEDGWICK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER ONE.**

**Mr. Gary E. Curmode**, Fire Chief, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We have some citizens in Sedgwick County that are presently not in the fire district that would like to petition to come in. They are located at 6400 North 135th Street West in Colwich and I would recommend that you approve the Resolution regarding the alteration and modification of boundaries of Sedgwick County Fire District Number One, Sedgwick County, Kansas."

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Okay, thank you. At this time, I'll open the public hearing to receive public comment regarding the change of boundaries of Fire District Number One. If there is anyone here who would like to address this item, please come forward at this time. Is there anyone here who would like to address this item regarding the change of boundaries of Sedgwick County Fire District Number One? If not, I'll close the public hearing and limit comments to staff. Commissioners, comments?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

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There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Thomas G. Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Aye

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Thank you. Next item please."

**B. PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION REGARDING AMENDMENT OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE UNIFORM FIRE CODE AND AMENDMENT OF THE SEDGWICK COUNTY CODE RELATING TO THE POSSESSION, SALE AND USE OF FIREWORKS IN SEDGWICK COUNTY.**

**Mr. Richard A. Euson**, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We have prepared a Resolution that would authorize a possession, sale and use of fireworks during the celebration of the millennium for this year for a period of time between December 28, 1999, and January 1, 2000. This is an amendment to the Uniform Code and so it does require a public hearing and I would recommend that you conduct a public hearing and accept public comment and approve the Resolution."

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Thank you. At this time, I will open our meeting for public comment regarding Item B on the Fire District Agenda for comments regarding the change of the uniform fire code. Is there anyone here who would like to address this item today? Is there anyone here who would like to address this item today? If not, we'll close the public hearing. Further comments Mr. Euson? Commissioners, what's the will of the Board?"

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "Chief, I have a question for you. This is a change in the way we do business that would permit sale, possession, and storage and use of fireworks for the year end celebration. I think we would be naive to think that fireworks aren't used in this County as it is today. Do you anticipate any problems? Have you looked at this and you feel you can handle this trial, if you will, at year's end?"

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**Chief Curmode** said, "If I may, I would like to have Fire Marshal Greg Thompson address that issue. He is in charge over that area."

**Mr. Greg Thompson**, Fire Marshall, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Yes, we have taken a look at that. I really, as Fire Marshall, can't really endorse this and can't embrace this, but we have looked at that time period in December. It is a very short time period. We're looking at the sale of fire works for that period, so we don't feel like there will be a tremendous amount of time. Most of it is going to be fired at midnight. It is not going to be like it is during this period for the Fourth of July, where it is an ongoing. Also, weather conditions are going to be quite a bit different. It's the will of the Board. We'll support whatever you want to do."

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "Okay, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Commissioner Winters."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "I guess that was kind of a luke warm endorsement."

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "He said he couldn't endorse it."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "I think I'm going to be supportive here. I guess I'm interested in hearing what the other Commissioners have to say. I guess the only thing I wish wouldn't have happened. I wish it hadn't rained so much and harvest was over because I've had a call from a person who thought we were going to reduce or release our ban for fireworks sale now over this 4th of July period. This was a person involved in agri-business and we all know that because of the rains, harvest is backed up and we're not going to be near completed by this weekend and the 4th of July. So there is a lot of concern out there. I assured them that this was not talking about releasing the ban on fireworks now. Fireworks are banned in the unincorporated part of Sedgwick County through this 4th of July season. We're only talking about, if I'm hearing this right, is the exception at the end of the year, December 28 to January 1."

**Mr. Thompson** said, "Right, as this Resolution is written, it is strictly for that period only and it is a one time thing."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "So as we talk about this weekend, everyone needs to fully remember that fireworks are banned in the unincorporated part of Sedgwick County. So it really is a shoot them where you buy them deal as far as Sedgwick County is concerned."

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**Mr. Thompson** said, "Right, fireworks are banned in Sedgwick County. We encourage everyone to shoot them where you buy them. There are several areas inside the County, other cities and things, shoot them where you buy them. Don't bring them out into the County."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "So if somebody wants to find a place to shoot them, don't drive out in the country on the back roads, because that is probably one of the worst places you could be to shoot fireworks in this time of the year."

**Mr. Thompson** said, "Right. We'll be out on the 4th of July and during this period. Ourselves and the Sheriff's Patrol will be out and we'll be monitoring that situation."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Okay. I'm interested to hear what other Commissioners think about this."

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Commissioner Sciortino."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Mr. Chairman, I'm definitely going to be supporting this Resolution. I think it is unique. It happens once every 1,000 years and it is going to give the citizens a chance to ring in the new millennium. I'm confident that even though harvest is going slow, that harvest will be done by December 28. I hope it will at any rate. I'm glad you did bring up, Commissioner Winters, the fact that this in no way effects the 4th of July. This is a one time shot to let people celebrate the new millennium. I'm definitely going to be supportive of this Resolution. Thank you."

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioners, further comments? If not, the Chair would entertain a Motion."

**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin

Aye

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Commissioner Thomas G. Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Aye

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Thank you. Is there further business? If not, we're adjourned."

**C. OTHER**

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

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There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS**

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**BILL HANCOCK**, Chairman  
Second District

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**BETSY GWIN**, Chair Pro Tem,  
First District

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**THOMAS G. WINTERS**, Commissioner,  
Third District

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**CAROLYN McGINN**, Commissioner,  
Fourth District

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**BEN SCIORTINO**, Commissioner  
Fifth District

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ATTEST:

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**James Alford**, County Clerk

APPROVED:

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